IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification as follows.

Page 75, delete the paragraph spanning lines 5-21 and insert the following new paragraph therefor:

A chimpanzee (Phil) already infected for over 13 years (5015 days before immunization) with an HCV subtype 1b strain was vaccinated with E1 (aa 192-326) which was derived from a different strain of genotype 1b, with a 95.1% identity on the amino acid level (see also Table 2 of WO 99/67285 the whole of which is incorporated herein by reference), and which was prepared as described in examples 1-3 of WO ~~99/97285~~ 99/67285. The chimpanzee received in total 6 intramuscular immunizations of each 50 μg E1 in PBS/0.05% CHAPS mixed with RIBI R-730 (MPLA+TDM+CWS) according to the manufacturer's protocol (Ribi Inc. Hamilton, MT). The 6 immunizations were given in two series of three shots with a three week interval and with a lag period of 6 weeks between the two series. Starting 150 days prior to immunization, during the immunization period and until 1 year post immunization (but see below and WO 99/67285) the chimpanzee was continuously monitored for various parameters indicative for the activity of the HCV induced disease. These parameters included blood chemistry, ALT, AST, gammaGT, blood chemistry, viral load in the serum, viral load in the liver and liver histology. In addition, the immune answer to the immunization was monitored both on the humoral and cellular level. During this period the animal was also monitored for any adverse effects of the immunization, such as change in

behaviour, clinical symptoms, body weight, temperature and local reactions (redness, swelling, indurations). Such effects were not detected.

Page 85, delete the paragraphs spanning lines 18-28, and insert the following therefor:

IGP 1626 EVRNVSGIYHVTNDCSNSS (amino acid 192-211I) (SEQ D NO:112),

IGP 1627 TNDCSNSSIVYEAADMIMHT (amino acid 204-223) (SEQ ID NO:113),

IGP 1628 AADMIMHTPGCVPCVRENNS (amino acid 216-235) (SEQ ID NO:114),

IGP 1629 PCVRENNSSRCWVALTPTLA (amino acid 228-247) (SEQ ID NO:115),

IGP 1630 VALTPTLAARNASVPTTTIR (amino acid 240-259) (SEQ ID NO: 116),

IGP 1631 SVPTTTIRRHVDLLVGAAAF (amino acid 252-271) (SEQ ID NO:117),

IGP 1632 LLVGAAAFCSAMYVGDLCGS (amino acid 264-283) (SEQ ID NO:118),

IGP 1633 YVGDLCGSVFLVSQLFTISP (amino acid 276-295) (SEQ ID NO:119),

IGP 1634 SQLFTISPRRHETVQDCNCS (amino acid 288-307) (SEQ ID NO:120),

IGP 1635 TVQDCNCSIYPGHITGHRMA (amino acid 300-319) (SEQ ID NO:121),

IGP 1636 HITGHRMAWDMMMNWSPTTA (amino acid 312-331) (SEQ ID NO:122).